

**From:** drupal\_admin <drupal\_admin@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2016 12:45 PM  
**To:** HarborComments  
**Subject:** Harbor Comments

Submitted on 08/26/2016 2:44PM

Submitted values are:

(b) (6)

Your Comments:

The process for developing a plan for cleanup of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site has dragged on for many years. On one side we have those demanding perfection and only perfection and on the other side those anxious to complete the process as quickly as possible at lowest cost. Neither approach is appropriate or realistic.

We can never achieve perfection and often the perfection proposals ignore the human component of the environment. Removing all contaminants by dredging and transferring the materials to other locations is an embarrassing "not in my backyard" strategy that may not be feasible. On the other side we need to do more than the cursory minimum.

HOWEVER MOST IMPORTANT IS THE NEED TO MOVE BEYOND THE YEARS OF PLANNING AND DISCUSSION AND BEGIN THE CLEAN UP PROCESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHILE CONTINUE MONITORING TO TRACK IMPROVEMENTS AND THE NEED FOR FUTURE ACTION.

The current proposal, although not perfect, begins that process by first addressing the most serious contamination using various appropriate methods including both dredging and capping and the recognition of the natural movement of contamination in and out of the harbor. This process combined with monitoring of the results will improve the harbor, removing the most grievous contaminants and provide guidance for future projects. Additionally, as better technologies develop they may be incorporated into future clean ups.

IT IS TIME TO INITIATE ACTION TO CLEAN UP THE SITE. In doing so we should not take on a project that is overly restrictive, disrupts the use of the Port, places extensive financial burdens on the Portland area economy and is not realistic. Follow-up monitoring and recognition in the plan that further action may be necessary will help insure on-going improvement in the harbor.